

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-10

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R 211455Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8817

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION USUN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ATHENS 3758

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR GR TU

SUBJ: PRESS COVERAGE OF GREEK DEMARCHE ON DEMIREL INTERVIEW

REF ATHENS 3722

1. SUMMARY: ATHENS NEWSPAPERS MAY 21 REPORTED PROMINENTLY GREEK DEMARCHE TO TURKISH GOVERNMENT FOR EXPLANATION OF PM DEMIREL'S LE MONDE INTERVIEW. EXPLANATION GIVEN IN RESPONSE BY FM CAGLAYANGIL LARGELY DISCOUNTED BY GREEK PRESS, SOME NEWSPAPERS CLAIMING MEETING BETWEEN THE PRIME MINISTERS IN BRUSSELS WOULD BE CANCELLED. END SUMMARY.

2. IN BRIEF STATEMENT LATE MAY 20, GOG OFFICIAL NOTED THAT AS SOON AS PM CARAMANLIS WAS INFORMED OF FULL TEXT OF DEMIREL LE MONDE INTERVIEW, GREEK AMBASSADOR TO ANKARA WAS INSTRUCTED TO SEEK AN EXPLANATION FROM TURKISH GOVERNMENT. PRESS REPORTED THAT FM CAGLAYANGIL REPLIED TO DEMARCHE BY NOTING THAT (A) TIMING OF PUBLICATION OF INTERVIEW WAS UNFORTUNATE, (B) INTERVIEW GRANTED THREE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WEEKS AGO AND (C) IN ANY CASE, WHAT WAS PUBLISHED DID NOT

ACCURATELY REFLECT WHAT THE TURKISH PRIME MINISTER HAD SAID NOR THE INTENTIONS OF TURKISH POLICY ON THE MAIN SUBJECTS REFERRED TO IN THE INTERVIEW.

3. ON BACKGROUND, GOG SOURCE STATED THAT IF DEMIREL'S STATEMENTS ACTUALLY OUTLINED TURKISH POLICY ON GREEK-TURKISH DIFFERENCES, THEN THE POLICY IS NOT ONLY DANGEROUS AND INTRANSIGENT BUT MANIFESTLY INCONSISTENT. APART FROM OTHER CONTRADICTIONS, HE SAID, IT ALSO RUNS COUNTER TO ANKARA'S EFFORT TO APPEAR TO BE SEEKING A DIALOGUE AND AT A HIGH LEVEL AT THAT. BASED ON OTHER COMMENTS BY GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN, PRESS POINTED OUT THAT FM CAGLAYANGIL'S EXPLANATION WAS CONSIDERED INSUFFICIENT AND DID NOT CANCEL THE THRUST OF DEMIREL'S REMARKS IN THE LE MONDE INTERVIEW.

4. PRESS PLAYED UP DEMIREL INTERVIEW AS JEOPARDIZING GREEK-TURKISH DIALOGUE AND RAISING DOUBTS ABOUT PROPOSED CARAMANLIS-DEMIREL MEETING IN BRUSSELS UNLESS A CREDIBLE EXPLANATION WOULD BE PROVIDED BY ANKARA. SOME NEWSPAPERS (E.G. KATHIMERINI, VRADYNI) HAD HEADLINES THAT MEETING WAS BEING CANCELLED. TO VIMA CLAIMED THE US WAS INTERVENING TO PRESERVE THE GREEK-TURKISH DIALOGUE. THIS WAS BASED ON REPORT THAT AMBASSADOR KUBISCH HAD CALLED ON DEPUTY MINISTER FOREIGN AFFAIRS TO BE BRIEFED ON ROME TALKS WHICH STORY RELATED TO SECRETARY'S ARRIVAL IN ANKARA TODAY. KUBISCH

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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